

Friday, of any intended marriage. Besides this, I solemnize all the marriages publicly in the church at the Friday prayer-meeting, when, especially if a marriage is to be celebrated, there are upwards of three hundred people present. I have neither private marriages nor private baptisms; everything is done publicly with us, that the remembrance of a public profession and the fear of public opinion, may come in to the aid of a weak or wavering resolution.

But while the temporal and social blessings of Christianity are so conspicuous on this island, we trust that the Lord in his mercy is communicating higher blessings through the instrumentality of His word. On Mr Geddie's side of the island there are a hundred and twenty church members, and a large number of candidates. On this side there are ninety; of these, eighteen were admitted at our last communion. Among those last admitted were two women, who live about eight miles distant, who attended my candidates' class for eighteen months. The class meets every Friday when I am at home; but during all these eighteen months, the one was absent only twice, and the other only four times.

The "John Knox" has more than realised our expectations. In December

last we hauled her up, to be out of danger during the hurricane months. Since that time we had her put into thorough repair, caulked, painted, berths fitted up, and a neat iron railing put round the deck, to prevent natives from being pitched overboard when she is rolling in a rough sea. Last year one or two natives fell overboard, and but for their being good swimmers, they might have been drowned. Some of the vessel's knees were found to be loose; these have been removed, and iron knees put in their place. She will be launched again next week, and will go to sea next month. Mr Geddie has had all the trouble of getting these repairs executed. Happily we obtained the services of an excellent ship-carpenter and a blacksmith, from one of the sandal-wood establishments on the island. Mr. Henry also, one of the partners in the firm, and himself a first-rate mechanic—has kindly interested himself in the repairs of the vessel, and done everything in his power to have her fitted up in the best possible manner. Our prayer is, that He who holds the winds in his fists, and who rules over the raging waves, may watch over our little vessel, and make her to be an instrument of much good to the mission.

I remain, Yours, &c.,

JOHN INGLIS.

OTHER MISSIONS.

MISSION OF THE U. P. CHURCH IN INDIA.

The Committee on Foreign Missions have under consideration a Report, which has been prepared with great care, with respect to a proper locality for a mission in India. It points out the missionary societies now labouring there, and the stations which they occupy, and describes nine places which have been suggested by gentlemen well acquainted with the wants of that great country.—After comparing the claims of these suggested fields of labour, it gives the preference to Ajmere in Rajpootana, as, on the whole, combining more fully than any of the other places the qualities which the seat of a mission should have. The case comes before the Committee for decision at their meeting on the 2d

of November, when some one of the places described will in all probability be selected; and, when that is done, the ground of the choice will be immediately and fully stated to the church. In the meantime, the Committee have instructed the Secretary to issue an appeal in behalf of India, and to ask, in terms of the minute of Synod, for "at least four missionaries." We now address those students that have just completed their course at the Hall, the preachers, and the young ministers of the church, and we request them very earnestly and prayerfully to consider the following points:—

1. *The Strong Claims of India.*—

These claims arise from the number of the people, from their degraded state, and from the near relationship in which